

**REMARKS/ARGUMENT****Regarding the Claims in General:**

Claims 16-31 are now pending. Claims 16 and 31 have been amended to address the rejections in the outstanding Office Action. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 16 and 31 now recite explicitly what was already at least implicit in these claims as previously presented, and have therefore not been narrowed for statutory purposes related to patentability.

**Regarding the Personal Interview Held January 24, 2006:**

Applicants' representative gratefully acknowledges the courtesy and assistance afforded to him by Examiner Vanaman during the interview. The Examiner's Interview Summary accurately reflects the substance of the matters discussed, and also the proposed changes to claims 16 and 31. These changes were agreed upon as distinguishing over the presently applied prior art, in particular, Wright U.S. Patent 6,181,033, and Raby U. S. Patent 3,925,695 and other secondary references. Claims 16 and 31 have been amended accordingly.

With the indicated amendments to claims 16 and 31, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early notification thereof is respectfully requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by Facsimile to (571) 273-8300 addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date indicated below.

Lawrence A Hoffman

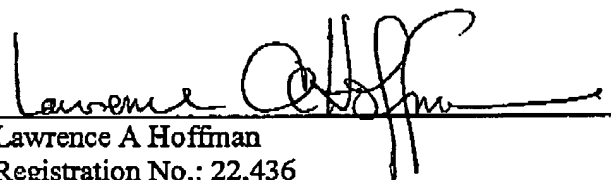
Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

  
Signature

January 30, 2006  
Date of Signature

LAH:lac/bar

Respectfully submitted,

  
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